

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

Resource Summary

	Budget Authority (in Millions)		
	FY 2009 Final	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Request
Drug Resources by Function			
Prevention	\$429.837	\$175.841	\$283.095
Total Drug Resources by Function	\$429.837	\$175.841	\$283.095
Drug Resources by Decision Unit			
Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students	0.000	0.000	283.095
<i>State and Local Grants (non-add)</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>144.560</i>
<i>Safe Schools/Healthy Students (non-add)</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>77.816</i>
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities			
National Programs	135.078	175.841	0.000
<i>Improving the Climate for Learning (non-add)</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>32.000</i>	<i>0.000</i>
<i>Safe Schools/Healthy Students (non-add)</i>	<i>77.816</i>	<i>77.816</i>	<i>0.000</i>
<i>Alcohol Abuse Reduction (non-add)</i>	<i>32.088</i>	<i>32.712</i>	<i>0.000</i>
State Grant Program	294.759	0.000	0.000
Total Drug Resources by Decision Unit	\$429.837	\$175.841	\$283.095
Drug Resources Personnel Summary			
Total FTEs (direct only)	0	0	0
Drug Resources as a Percent of Budget			
Total Agency Budget (in Billions)	\$45.4	\$46.2	\$49.7
Drug Resources Percentage	0.95%	0.38%	0.57%

NOTE: Total agency budget reflects discretionary funds only, and for comparability across years excludes funds for Pell Grants, which were discretionary funds in FYs 2009 and 2010 and are proposed to be mandatory in FY 2011.

Program Summary

Mission

The Department of Education (Education) administers programs to help ensure that all students can meet challenging standards and to improve elementary and secondary education; special education and early intervention programs for children with disabilities; English language acquisition for limited English proficient and immigrant

children; career, technical, and adult education; and higher education. In addition, Education carries out research, data collection, and civil rights enforcement activities. The programs funded under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) Act and the proposed *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program comprise the only Education operations included in the drug control budget.

The SDFSC program supports grants and discretionary activities to foster a safe, secure, and drug-free learning environment, facilitate emergency management and preparedness, and prevent student drug use and violence at all educational levels. The *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program would consolidate several existing, narrowly targeted programs that seek to provide the environment that students need to succeed (including safe and drug-free schools, access to counseling and mental health services, and fostering a physically fit and healthy lifestyle). The SDFSC program supports (and the *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program once enacted and funded would support) the prevention mission of the *National Drug Control Strategy*.

Budget

In FY 2011, Education requests \$283.1 million for drug control activities, which is an increase of \$107.3 million over the FY 2010 level, due primarily to the new *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* State and Local Grants.

Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students

Total FY 2011 Request: \$283.1 million
(Reflects \$107.3 million increase from FY 2010)

This new program would support student achievement to high standards and help ensure that students are mentally and physically healthy and ready to learn, by strengthening efforts to: improve school climate by reducing drug use, violence, and harassment and by improving school safety; improve students' physical health and well-being through the use of, or provision of access to, comprehensive services that

improve student nutrition, physical activity, and fitness; and improve students' mental health and well-being through the use of or provision of access to comprehensive services, such as counseling, health, and mental health services, social services, and innovative family engagement programs or supports. Excluded from the drug control budget are the following activities that have no clear drug control nexus: (1) school and college emergency preparedness initiatives; (2) Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence); and (3) continuation costs that would be subsumed under the proposed *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program for projects originally funded under the Physical Education program and the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling program.

Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students: State and Local Grants

FY 2011 Request: \$144.6 million
(Reflects \$144.6 million increase from FY 2010)

Within the budget request for the *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program, the Department would use \$144.6 million to award grants to assist State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and partnerships between LEAs and non-profit organizations or local governmental entities to develop and implement programs and activities that increase the extent to which schools are safe environments that support student achievement to high standards and help ensure that students are mentally and physically healthy and ready to learn.

FY 2011 Total Changes (+\$144.6 million):

The new program would increase the capacity of States, districts, and schools to create safe, healthy, and drug-free environments in a comprehensive

manner, so that students are able to focus on learning and teachers on teaching. Further, it would provide increased flexibility for States and districts to design strategies that best reflect the needs of their students and communities.

Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students: Safe Schools/Healthy Students

FY 2011 Request: \$77.8 million

(Reflects no change from FY 2010)

Within the budget request for the Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students program, \$77.8 million is included for grant awards under the “Safe Schools/Healthy Students” initiative to support LEAs and communities in developing and implementing a comprehensive set of programs and services designed to prevent youth drug use and violence, support early childhood development activities, and provide needed student mental health services. Education funds this initiative jointly with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and administers it in collaboration with both HHS and the Department of Justice

To be eligible for Safe Schools/Healthy Students funding, an LEA must demonstrate agreement in the form of a partnership among the major community systems serving students – schools, the local public mental health authority, law enforcement, and juvenile justice – to work collaboratively in assessing needs and providing programs and services in the following five areas: (1) safe school environments and violence prevention; (2) alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention; (3) student behavioral, social, and emotional supports; (4) mental health

services; and (5) early childhood social and emotional learning programs.

Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students: Other

FY 2011 Request: \$60.6 million

(Reflects \$37.3 million decrease from FY 2010)

The budget request for the *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program also includes funding for the following National Activities:

- \$ 7.9 million to help institutions of higher education address such problems as under-age, binge, and high-risk drinking by students.
- \$16.1 million for other activities that promote safe and healthy students such as research and development, developing and implementing school climate measurement systems and programs to improve school climate, data collection, dissemination, outreach, and other forms of technical and financial assistance to States, LEAs, community-based organizations, and IHEs.
- \$36.6 million for other continuation costs for grants originally awarded under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program. Within the budget request for the *Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students* program, the Department would pay continuation awards for multi-year grants for drug prevention projects funded originally under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program, as follows:
 - \$30.1 million for grants for projects to address and improve school climate,
 - \$6.5 million for grants to LEAs to develop and implement innovative and effective programs to reduce alcohol abuse in secondary schools.

Performance

Introduction

This section on the FY 2009 performance of the SDFSC program is based largely on agency GPRA documents and other information. The table includes performance measures, targets, and achievements for the latest year for which data are available.

Department of Education			
Selected Measures of Performance (National Grants)		FY 2009 Target	FY 2009 Achieved
Alcohol Abuse Reduction			
» Percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees whose target students show measurable <i>decrease in binge drinking</i>	2007 cohort	76.9	47
	2008 cohort	61.5	50.7
» Percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees showing measurable increase in percent of target students who <i>believe alcohol abuse is harmful to their health</i>	2007 cohort	86.5	76.5
	2008 cohort	69.2	58.6
» Percentage of Alcohol Abuse Reduction grantees that show measurable increase in percent of target students who <i>disapprove of alcohol abuse</i>	2007 cohort	86.5	47
	2008 cohort	69.2	49.3
Safe Schools/Healthy Students			
» Percentage of Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant sites that experience <i>decrease in substance use</i> during the 3-year grant period	2006 cohort	76.67	1
	2005 cohort	86.25	1
» Percentage of Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant sites that report a decrease in the percentage of their students who report <i>current (30-day) marijuana use</i>	2007 cohort	2	1
	2008 cohort	2	1
» Percentage of Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant sites that report a decrease in the percentage of their students who report <i>current (30-day) alcohol use</i>	2007 cohort	2	1
	2008 cohort	2	1
Student Drug Testing			
» Percentage of Student Drug Testing grantees experiencing 5% annual reduction in <i>past-month</i> drug use by students in target population served by grants	2006 cohort	70	13
	2007 cohort	50	42
	2008 cohort	33	49
» Percentage of Student Drug Testing grantees experiencing 5% annual reduction in <i>past-year</i> drug use by student in target population served by grants	2006 cohort	60	13
	2007 cohort	50	33
	2008 cohort	33	58

¹2009 data expected in mid-2010

²Target not established since two years of performance data are needed to establish the baseline for this cohort

Discussion

For the SDFSC National Programs grant competitions, the Department has identified outcome measures and targets; however, 2009 grantee data have not yet been compiled for all of the measures.

Data are based primarily on analysis of grantee performance reports. It is difficult to pinpoint why performance results for the 2006 and 2007 cohorts fell short of their established targets. Possible explanations include turnover in leadership at the grantee level, variances in project design, and differences in cohort size and composition. Also, targets may have reflected baseline data from grantees most able to report results effectively and accurately.

The ***Safe Schools/Healthy Students*** initiative provides support to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) for implementation of a comprehensive plan to create safe, disciplined, and drug-free environments that provide needed mental health services and support healthy development. Grantees collect and report data concerning rates of student drug use as one of the initiative's GPRA measures. Nearly 80 percent of sites in the 2006 grant cohort reported 2008 data for this GPRA measure and of those, two-thirds reported a reduction in student drug use.

The first evaluation of this program focused on the fiscal year 1999, 2000, and 2001 cohorts supported under the initiative, a total of 97 sites. Data from this evaluation identified statistically significant improvements in student outcomes related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. For example, student self-report data for high

school students reflected decreases in 30-day alcohol and tobacco use and cigarette sales on school property; those data also reflected increases in perceived disapproval of peer substance use. Current alcohol use was down 10 percent, and current tobacco use declined 13 percent. A second evaluation, focusing on fiscal year 2005 - 2007 cohorts, is expected to provide data later in 2010.

The ***School-Based Student Drug Testing*** program provides grants to local educational agencies and other entities to support development, implementation, or expansion of school-based student drug testing programs. The drug testing funded by these grants must be part of a comprehensive drug prevention program in the schools served by the grant and must provide for the referral to treatment or counseling of students identified as drug users. The projects supported must also be consistent with recent Supreme Court decisions regarding student drug testing and ensure the confidentiality of testing results. GPRA data for the 2008 cohort of grantees indicate that during school year 2008-2009, 49 percent of grantees achieved a reduction of at least 5 percent in past-month drug use by students and that, during this same period, more than half of grantees (58 percent) reported they achieved a reduction of at least 5 percent in past-year drug use by students.

Some individual sites posted even more significant improvements in reported drug use in this timeframe after the student drug testing program was implemented. For example, 11 sites in the FY 2008 cohort reported reductions in past-month drug of 50 percent or greater. Twelve sites from this cohort also reported reducing past-year

drug use rates by one-third or more.

The *Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse*

program provides funds to LEAs to support the implementation of proven strategies designed to reduce the use and abuse of alcohol by secondary school students. Results for the 2008 cohort of grantees reported in 2009 annual performance reports reflect some successes during the first year of project implementation. About 50 percent of grantees cite measurable decreases in student binge drinking after one year of project implementation. Also among the 2008 cohort, an increased number of students in about 59 percent of grant sites believed that alcohol abuse was harmful to their health, while an increased number of students in nearly 50 percent of sites disapproved of alcohol abuse.

Some individual sites achieved particularly meaningful improvements. For example, the Gadsden City, Alabama Board of Education site reported cutting rates of binge drinking significantly (from about 38 percent down to about 15 percent, a 61 percent reduction), as well as increases of about 20 percent in the percentage of students who disapproved of alcohol abuse and 11 percent in the percentage of students who believed that alcohol abuse is harmful to their health.

The *Grants to Prevent High-Risk Drinking among College Students*

competition provides funds to institutions of higher education or other eligible entities to prevent binge drinking by college students. The Department established as the GPRA measure for these grants, the percentage of grantees operating for two years that report a 5 percent decrease in high-risk drinking among students served. Grantees

from the FY 2005 cohort have completed their projects and reported baseline and project-end data to the Department indicating that 81 percent of grantees experienced a 5 percent decrease in high-risk drinking.

In FY 2011, with the consolidation of programs into the newly proposed Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students, later this year the Department will be developing performance measures for the new program.